

That Which is Claimed

SUB A1

1. A system for distributing music to customers, comprising:

5 a plurality of music selections to customer households in
digital form;

~~a user station at each of a plurality of customer households, the user station including;~~

10 preselect desired transmitted music selections for
recording;

a receiver and associated high capacity storage medium for recording preselected music selections in digital form:

15 an audio output for outputting audio signals from the storage medium to a playback device so that the customer household may playback those recorded music selections it wishes to enjoy;

20 storing therein an address corresponding to each customer
household;

a communications link between each customer household and the central controller system to verify to the

controller system when a preselected music selection has been made available for playback; and

5 a billing system associated with the central controller system to bill customer households for music selections that are made available for playback.

2. A method of distributing music to customer households comprising the steps of:

blanket transmitting a plurality of music selections to customer households by direct broadcast satellite (DBS) at data transmission rates faster than real time;

5 providing each customer household with information identifying available music selections that will be transmitted;

10 permitting each customer household to preselect and record desired music selections on a high capacity storage medium;

15 permitting each customer household to playback recorded music selections;

communicating music playback information from each customer household to a central controller system; and

20 billing customer households for the recorded music selections that are made available for playback.

ADD A2>